



# School District of Westfield

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*“Inspiring every student, through every experience, every day!”*

Dear Pioneer Families,

March 18, 2024

I hope all of our families had a restful and enjoyable Spring Break. As we transition back into school mode, I wanted to update you on some important developments regarding ongoing maintenance issues at our high school and the resulting changes our students and staff can expect.

If you were able to attend our Listening Sessions, you are likely aware of the maintenance challenges we've been facing District-wide, and our 27-year-old high school has not been exempt. Plumbing issues, in particular, have posed significant problems. We recently discovered pinhole leaks in certain water pipes, which have caused moisture-related issues within the walls.

Unfortunately, these issues went undetected until leaks indicated necessary repairs, leading to the closure of some high school bathrooms. The discovery of mold in these areas heightened our concerns, prompting us to take immediate action to ensure the safety and well-being of our students and staff.

In response to these challenges, we have engaged professional remediation specialists from PuroClean. Throughout Spring Break, they have been working to seal affected areas, install filtration systems, and remove affected materials. While this is just one of the many facility issues we continue to address, it underscores the importance of our ongoing efforts to communicate our maintenance needs effectively with the community.

I want to reassure everyone that comprehensive air quality tests have been conducted throughout the building, confirming that it is safe for occupancy. The affected areas, primarily the bathrooms near the Guidance Office, have been sealed off by PuroClean and will remain so until all necessary demolition and reconstruction work is complete.

Upon the return to school, students noticed some changes. Unfortunately, certain restrooms will continue to be unavailable for use, and the Guidance Office has been temporarily relocated. Additionally, students and staff have limited access to the library and need to navigate around blocked-off areas.

As we move forward, please know that the safety and well-being of our staff and students are our top priorities. We are committed to taking every precaution necessary to ensure a safe learning environment for everyone. I appreciate your understanding and cooperation as we work through these repairs and changes together.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out to me or any member of our administrative team (608-296-2141). Your feedback is invaluable as we strive to address these challenges effectively. I am grateful for your continued support and understanding.

Respectfully,  
Michelle Johnson  
District Administrator  
School District of Westfield